



Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

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November 05, 2014

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

6-P November 5, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE CITIES AND COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO
THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
AND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT TO
THE GREATER LOS ANGELES ZOO ASSOCIATION FOR
THE LOS ANGELES ZOO GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
(THIRD DISTRICT)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$372,500 in Cities Excess Funds to the City of Los Angeles, and an amount not to exceed \$372,500 in County Excess Funds to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, for a grant to the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association for general improvements to the Los Angeles Zoo.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the proposed Los Angeles Zoo General Improvements Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and reasons reflected in the record of the project.
2. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$372,500 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, to the City of Los Angeles for a grant to the Greater Los Angeles Zoo

Association for the proposed Los Angeles Zoo General Improvements Project.

3. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$372,500 in County Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for a grant to the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association for the proposed Los Angeles Zoo General Improvements Project.

4. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant to the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, after the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation assign their respective rights to apply for the funds to the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association and when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$372,500 in Cities Excess Funds and an amount not to exceed \$372,500 in County Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to the City of Los Angeles (City) and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), respectively, for a grant total of \$745,000 to the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) for the proposed Los Angeles Zoo General Improvements Project (Project).

The proposed Project involves general improvements to the Los Angeles Zoo (Zoo), including purchase and installation of lighting fixtures and improvements of various structures throughout the majority of the Zoo's campus, to provide for improved public safety and expanded usage of the Zoo's facilities. The total project cost is estimated at \$745,000 and will be fully funded with the recommended Cities and County Excess Funds.

The City, which is a qualified recipient of Cities Excess Funds under the 1996 Proposition, will assign its right to apply for the \$372,500 to GLAZA. DPR, which is a qualified recipient of County Excess Funds under the 1996 Proposition, will assign its right to apply for the \$372,500 to GLAZA.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award a grant after the City and DPR assigns their respective rights to apply for the funds to GLAZA and when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by improving and enhancing recreational activities in the Third Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of \$745,000 is budgeted in the Third Supervisorial District's portion of the Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The City, DPR, and GLAZA each meet this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining, each fiscal year, the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District for Cities and County projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award a grant when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the RPOSD are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The City is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The Project, which includes purchase and installation of lighting fixtures and related structures throughout the majority of the Zoo's campus, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3(b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project provides for installation of small new structures.

The proposed Project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed Project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed Project's records.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Grant Project Agreement (Agreement) will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Agreement will be approved as to form

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

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by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD, but are required so that the GLAZA may proceed with the Project in the Third Supervisorial District, if all applicable conditions are met.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division; and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney".

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors